

Sustainable Backyard Program: TREES

Also available: Rebates for **Compost Bins**, **Rain Barrels**, and **Native Plants**

50% off
Rebate
Inside!

The Value of a Tree:

Trees have been found to reduce air pollution, increase property values, improve human health and well-being, decrease energy costs and create a sense of community among residents, thereby lowering crime rates. For these reasons alone, the city will benefit from more trees.



Why Plant a Tree at Home?

- By planting strategically, you can reduce your energy bills and carbon footprint.
- Increase your property value.
- Remove pollution from the air and help prevent flooding by managing stormwater.
- Buffer noise pollution.
- Provide shade and wind protection.
- Increase habitat for local wildlife.

Background on Chicago's Urban Forest:

- Chicago's urban forest is comprised of over 3.5 million trees.
- The Chicago Trees Initiative has committed to increasing Chicago's tree canopy from 17.2% (2008 level) to 20% by the year 2020.
- Most of the land available for planting more trees in our backyards, front yards, and parkways.
- Every year, Chicago's urban forest:
 - Removes 888 tons of pollution, at a value of \$6.4 million dollars.
 - Absorbs 25,200 tons of carbon dioxide.
- The structural value of our urban forest is estimated at \$2.3 billion.

DID YOU KNOW: One medium-sized tree can absorb about 2,380 gallons of rainfall per year.



We Can Help!

Rebates

We want to give you 50% (up to \$100) off any locally-purchased tree! All you have to do is fill out the attached rebate form and send it in with your original purchase receipt. See rebate form (attached) for more details.

Workshops

Attend a free Sustainable Backyard Workshop! The Chicago Department of Environment, along with its Sustainable Backyard partners, will be hosting a series of free informative workshops across the city. You'll learn what you can do to green your backyard; the basics of installing and maintaining rain barrels, compost bins, trees and native plants; and where to go for more resources. For more details, visit www.cityofchicago.org/rainbarrel

Resources

- For more information and other great resources, visit the Chicago Trees Initiative at www.chicagotrees.net.
- To request a tree on your parkway, call 311.



PLANTING A TREE: how it works...

Before You Buy...

1. **Take a good look at your yard.** Placement should take into account the height, shape, root structure, and resilience of your tree. See the Recommended Tree list below for some common examples.
2. **Make sure you're equipped to transport and plant your new tree.** Trees can be heavy and require substantial digging when planting. If you don't feel confident transporting or planting your tree, consider purchasing a smaller tree, or "whip," or consult a professional for help.
3. **Spring and fall are the best times to plant trees.** Summer planting is not recommended and will reduce the likelihood your tree will survive its first year.

* **Call before you dig!** Within Chicago city limits, call "DIGGER" (the Chicago Utility Alert Network) at 312-744-7000.

* Chicago residents who want to plant trees or garden in City-owned parkway may need a permit from the Department of Streets and Sanitation Bureau of Forestry and/or Department of Transportation, visit www.cityofchicago.org for more information

How To Help Your Tree Survive its First Year

Watering Newly transplanted and young trees require one inch of water per week when in leaf.

Mulching Annual mulching helps keep roots cool in summer and warm in winter. Mulch should be spread in the shape of a saucer at least two or three feet around the base of the tree and should not be mounded up against a tree's trunk.

Staking and Wrapping This step is optional and depends on the species you buy. Check with your garden center or nursery.

Pruning Do not prune during the first year. If pruning cannot be done with both feet on the ground, contact an arborist. Visit the Illinois Arborist Association at www.illinoisarborist.org.

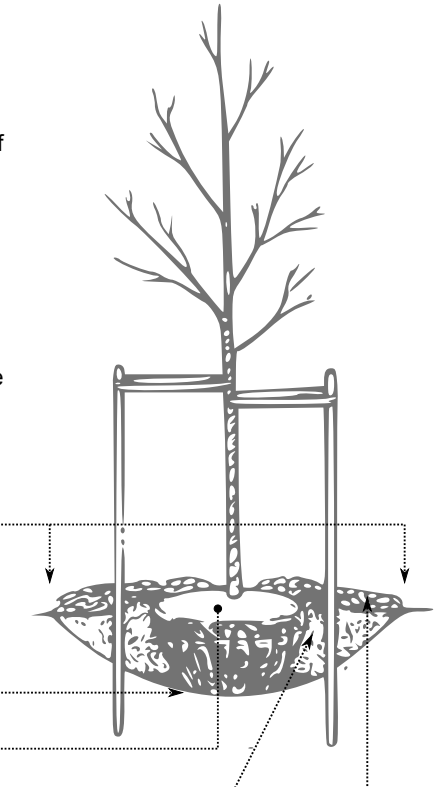
How To Plant Your Tree

Nursery trees come one of three ways: bare-root, balled and burlapped (B&B) or potted. The B&B method is the most common way.

1. Before digging the planting hole, measure the width and height of the root ball. Your planting hole should be the same depth as the root ball, but three times as wide.

2. Set root ball on undisturbed soil to prevent settling.

3. Once the tree is in the hole, remove any wires or ropes around the burlap and trunk. Fold the burlap back and tuck it in towards the bottom of the root ball.

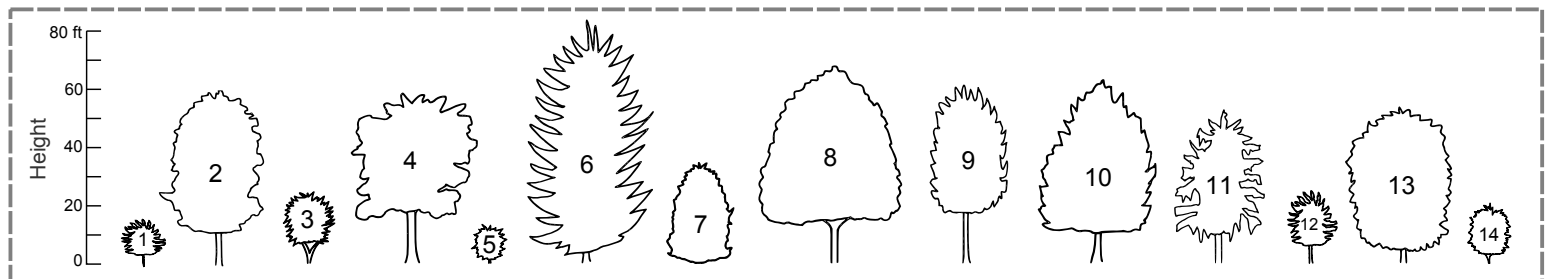


4. Fill the hole with soil, only up to the trunk, to stabilize; allow the rest of the backfill to settle naturally.

5. Apply 2 to 3 inches of mulch over the root ball and backfill. Keep mulch away from trunk base.

For more info on planting and maintaining trees visit www.chicagotrees.net

Recommended Trees For Chicago



Symbol Key: ☀ Full Sun ☁ Partial Shade 🐦 Beneficial to Birds 🌳 Native to the Midwest

Common Name	Scientific Name	Notes	Soil Conditions	
1 Redbud	<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	Bright pink edible flowers in early spring, good under power lines.	Moist, well-drained	☀ 🌳
2 Kentucky Coffee Tree	<i>Gymnocladus dioica</i>	Very tolerant and adaptable.	Wet	☀ 🌳
3 Serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier spp.</i>	Spring flowers, good under power lines.	Moist, well-drained	☀ 🐦 🌳
4 Hackberry	<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>	Large shade tree, adaptable to different soils, fruits loved by birds.	Tolerant of most soils	☀ 🐦 🌳
5 Blackhaw Viburnum	<i>Viburnum prunifolium</i>	Spring white flowers, can make a great hedge, good under power lines.	Tolerant of most soils	☀ 🐦 🌳
6 Norway Spruce	<i>Picea abies</i>	Evergreen shade tree, makes a great windbreak.	Moist, well-drained	☀ 🌳
7 Western Red Cedar	<i>Thuja plicata</i>	Cone-like shape keeps without pruning.	Wet	☀ 🐦 🌳
8 Swamp White Oak	<i>Quercus bicolor</i>	Symmetrical, rounded canopy.	Wet	☀ 🐦 🌳
9 Elm	<i>Ulmus x 'Morton Glory'</i>	Disease-resistant, golden-yellow fall color, a classic tree.	Moist, well-drained to dry	☀ 🌳
10 American Linden	<i>Tilia americana</i>	Fragrant flowers, can be used to make tea.	Moist, well-drained	☀ 🌳
11 Ginkgo	<i>Ginkgo biloba</i>	Upright columnar for narrow spaces, golden-yellow fall color.	Moist, well-drained to dry	☀ 🌳
12 Crabapple	<i>Malus spp. 'Prarie Fire'</i>	Spring flowers and green apples, good under power lines.	Tolerant of most soils	☀ 🐦 🌳
13 European Beech	<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	Attractive red fall color.	Moist, well-drained	☀ 🌳
14 Cornelian Cherry Dogwood	<i>Cornus mas</i>	Mid-summer cherries, can make a great hedge, good under power lines.	Moist, well-drained	☀ 🐦 🌳

For a full list of recommended trees for Chicago, visit www.cityofchicago.org/rainbarrel.

City of Chicago Rebate Form: TREES

Thank you for purchasing a tree and helping improve and expand Chicago's urban forest. Please provide the following information and original itemized receipt to receive your rebate. **Illegible or incomplete forms will not be accepted.**

Personal Information

(please print clearly to receive your rebate):

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: Chicago Zip: 606_____

Phone: () _____

Email Address: _____

Tree Planted at: ☐ same address as above

Address: _____

City: Chicago Zip: 606_____

Where did you hear about this program?

Where did you get this rebate form?

Tree Information

Where did you purchase your tree(s)?

Date of Purchase: _____

Tree Species: _____

Tree size (caliper or gallons): _____

How many trees are currently in your yard? _____

Why did you decide to purchase tree(s)? (check all that apply)

☐ I like the way it looks

☐ I want to help manage stormwater

☐ To increase my property value

☐ Other _____

Would you have purchased this item if a rebate was not available? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Total Spent: \$ _____

Total Rebate Requested (50%, up to \$100): \$ _____

I pledge the information I have provided is accurate and that I have read and understand the attached information. Signature:

Date: _____

(sign here)

CUT HERE - Below This Line is for Your Records

Rebate Information

- Original receipt (be sure receipt clearly indicates purchase) and completed Rebate Form must be post-marked by December 31, 2011. The City of Chicago reserves the right to deny rebate forms with unclear receipts.
- Rebate checks may take up to 3 months to process.
- Rebate amount: 50% off original purchase price, up to \$50 rebate, per household, per year.
- If you have any questions on the rebate process, please call 312.743.9283 or email rainbarrel@cityofchicago.org.
- Maximum rebates: Rain Barrels \$40, Compost Bins \$50, Native Plants \$60, Trees \$100.

To receive your rebate, please complete the top of this form and submit it along with the original purchase receipt by December 31, 2011, to:

**Chicago Sustainable Backyard Program
Chicago Department of Environment
30 N. LaSalle, 2nd Floor
Chicago, IL 60602**

Rebate Rules/Restrictions

- Rebates are only available to City of Chicago residents and trees must be planted at a Chicago residence. Limit one of each rebate type (rain barrel, compost bin, tree, native plants) per installation address, per year. Tree must be purchased between September 1, 2010 and December 31, 2011. Residents are encouraged to purchase more than one tree and native plant, but should submit all 2011 native plant and tree rebates at once.
- Rebates will not be offered for trees on the banned species list (see the full list at www.cityofchicago.org/rainbarrel) or trees purchased online or outside the state of Illinois. Rebates are only available for the cost of trees. Other materials, taxes and individual costs will not be applied to rebates.



Richard M. Daley
Mayor



Department of
Environment

